

B. REMARKS

1. Drawings.

a. **Examiner.** The examiner objected to the proposed drawing addition.

b. **Response.** An alternate drawing addition has been submitted.

2. Claim Rejections and Examiner Interview.

Pursuant to a telephone interview with the examiner on July 8, 2001, claims have been amended as shown in section C.

C. AMENDMENTS WITH MARKUP SHOWING CHANGES.

1. The specification. Page 9, first paragraph was amended as follows:

In an alternative embodiment, base **10** is comprised of a split baseboard (see Fig. 10 below) so that stiffener **18** and base slat support **22** fit between two baseboard sections (not shown). Construction with a split base board brings a portion of the bottom slat **30** on the right and left side of base slat support **22** between the two baseboard sections and below the level shown for baseboard **16** in Fig. 8. Construction with a split baseboard allows an increase in the size of the surface area of top rear **48** and top front **42** (see Fig. 1) which increases the range of window arches to which one size of shutter **100** can be affixed.

Fig. 10 depicts alternate shutter element **110** showing a split base board configuration having left split baseboard **170** and right split baseboard **150**. Base slat support **220** and stiffener **180**, can be seen extending down into the space between left split baseboard **170** and right split baseboard **150**.

2. The claims.

1. (twice amended) A shutter for a semi-circular window opening having an arched wall comprising:

a top having a top rear, a rear edge and a top support affixed to said top rear;

a plurality of slats each having a top end and a bottom end;

[a] an arched base slat support affixed to a baseboard;

a plurality of springs affixed to [a] said base slat support and to the bottom ends of said slats;

a base front affixed to the base slat support and adapted for minimizing light leakage at the bottom ends of the slats;

a base rear affixed to the base slat support;

a plurality of first securement devices;

a plurality of second securement devices;

a stiffener disposed within said base slat support [and affixed to said baseboard] between opposing ends of the base slat support;

wherein[,] said stiffener prevents warping of said baseboard;

wherein said springs are partially concealed by said base front and the base rear;

wherein[,] said plurality of top ends are affixed to said top support by said plurality of first securement devices; and wherein[,] said plurality of springs are affixed between said plurality of bottom ends and said base slat support by said plurality of second securement devices; and

wherein an area of the top rear is adapted for covering a gap between said rear edge and said arched wall.

2. Please cancel claim 2

3. Please cancel claim 3.

4. Please cancel claim 4

5. (twice amended) The shutter of claim 1 wherein each of said slats comprises a first ridge and a second ridge; and

wherein when said slats are in a closed position the first ridge of one of said [slat] slats will engage the second ridge of [the] an adjacent [slat] one of said slats.

6.(once amended) The shutter of claim 1 wherein said first securement devices and said second securement devices comprise screws.

7. (twice amended) The shutter of claim 1 wherein said first securement devices and said second securement devices [comprise one of the following;] are selected from the group consisting of nails, dowels, bolts [or] and rods.

8. (twice amended) The shutter of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of joints [made from folded metal] comprising angled metal brackets wherein said top rear is fixedly engaged to said top support by said joints .

9. (twice amended) A shutter for a semi-circular window comprising:

a top having a top rear, a top front and a top support affixed to said top rear;

a plurality of slats each of said slats having a top end, a bottom end, a first ridge and a second ridge;

[a] an arched base slat support;

a split baseboard having a first baseboard section and a second baseboard section;

a plurality of springs;

a plurality of first securement devices;

a plurality of second securement devices;

a base front affixed to said base slat support and adapted for minimizing light leakage at the bottom ends of the slats;

a base rear affixed to said base slat support;

a stiffener fixedly engaged to said first baseboard section, said second baseboard section and said base slat support;

wherein said stiffener is disposed between opposing ends of said base slat support;

wherein, each of said top ends are affixed to said top support by said plurality of first securement devices[];

wherein[,] said first ridge of one of said slats engages the second ridge of [the] an adjacent [slat] one of said slats when said slats are in a closed position;

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wherein said base slat support extends downward between said first baseboard section and said second baseboard section.

10.(once amended) The shutter of claim 9 wherein said first securement devices and said second securement devices comprise screws.

11. (once amended) The shutter of claim 9 wherein said first securement devices and said second securement devices [comprise one of the following;] are selected from the group consisting of nails, dowels, bolts or rods.

12. (twice amended) The shutter of claim 9 further comprising a plurality of joints made from folded metal wherein said top rear is fixedly engaged to said top support by said joints[.].

13. Please cancel claim 13.

14. Please cancel claim 14.

15. Please cancel claim 15.

16. Please cancel claim 16.

17. Please cancel claim 17.

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For the foregoing reasons, the Applicant submits that the disclosed and claimed in the present application is not fairly taught by any of the references of record, taken either alone or in combination. Therefore, allowance of the present application is in order, and is requested.

Respectfully submitted

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